

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A portable computing device controlled by an operating system, in which, during boot, if the operating system is loaded intact but an internal non-volatile read/write memory drive that is used to boot the device to a functional GUI is found to be corrupted, then the non-volatile read/write memory is automatically swapped with a temporary volatile RAM drive to enable the operating system to complete the boot.

2. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1 in which the non-volatile read/write memory is a flash memory.

3. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1 in which the temporary volatile RAM drive allows at least emergency voice calls to be made.

4. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1 in which default configuration files are automatically copied to the volatile RAM drive.

5. (Original) The device of Claim 1 in which the corrupt drive is automatically moved to a different drive letter to allow subsequent reformatting.

6. (Original) The device of Claim 1 which displays a user notification asking if reformatting should take place.

7. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1 which displays a user notification that the temporary volatile RAM drive is in use.

8. (Original) The device of Claim 1 which displays a user notification that save options are disabled.

9. (Original) The device of Claim 1 which displays a user notification that save options are not available.

10. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1 which displays a user option which, if selected, initiates an attempt to extract data from the corrupt internal ~~flash~~ non-volatile read/write memory drive.

11. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1 in which the internal non-volatile read/write memory drive is found to be corrupted if any of the following apply:

- (a) existing data cannot be read;
- (b) new data cannot be written;
- (c) user data is corrupt but metadata is not corrupt;
- (d) user data is not corrupt but metadata is corrupt;
- (e) it is in a read-only state.

12. (Currently amended) A method of enabling a portable computing device to boot up to a functional GUI, comprising:

loading a ~~when its~~ resident operating system;

during boot, determining that the operating system is intact but that an internal non-volatile read/write memory drive that is normally used to boot up ~~from~~ is ~~found to be~~ corrupt; and

~~, comprising the step of~~ automatically swapping the corrupt non-volatile memory drive with a temporary volatile RAM drive to enable the resident operating system to complete the boot.

13. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 12 in which the non-volatile read/write memory is a flash memory.

14. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 12 in which the temporary volatile RAM drive allows at least emergency voice calls to be made.

15. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 12 in which default configuration files are automatically copied to the volatile RAM drive.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 12 in which the corrupt drive is automatically moved to a different drive letter to allow subsequent reformatting.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 12 in which the device displays a user notification asking if reformatting should take place.

18. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 12 in which the device displays a user notification that the temporary volatile RAM drive is in use.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 12 in which the device displays a user notification that save options are disabled.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 12 in which the device displays a user notification that save options are not available.

21. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 12 in which the device displays a user option which, if selected, initiates an [[to]] attempt to extract data from the corrupt drive.

22. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 12 in which the internal non-volatile read/write memory drive is found to be corrupted if any of the following apply:

- (a) existing data cannot be read;
- (b) new data cannot be written;
- (c) user data is corrupt but metadata is not corrupt;
- (d) user data is not corrupt but metadata is corrupt;
- (e) it is in a read-only state.

23. (Currently amended) A computer program product for a portable computing device comprising an internal non-volatile read/write memory drive that is normally used to boot up the device to a functional GUI, said computer program product comprising:

a computer-readable storage medium;

first program instructions stored on said medium, said first program instructions enabling operating system software to automatically swap the non-volatile read/write memory drive with a temporary volatile RAM drive if the non-volatile memory drive is found to be corrupt, thereby enabling the operating system software to complete a boot.

24. (New) A device according to claim 1, wherein the corrupt non-volatile read/write memory drive is unmounted, and the temporary volatile RAM drive is mounted having the same drive letter as was allocated to the corrupt non-volatile read/write memory drive.

25. (New) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the swapping step comprises unmounting the non-volatile read/write memory drive, and mounting the temporary volatile RAM drive in its place so as to have the same drive letter as was allocated to the corrupt non-volatile read/write memory drive.